

Bishara says Arabs should be wary

RIYADH (AP) — The secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) held Monday for the Middle East peace conference saying Arabs had to be wary but the host should stay home. "This is a historic conference, a conference for decision-making and it has no place for half solutions and quasi positions... the host must stay away," said GCC Secretary-General Abdallah Bishara, a Kuwaiti diplomat. The GCC foreign ministers met Sunday to outline their position on all three planned stages of the talks, with the six states expected to join the final round. "Our demands are twofold, that U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 be implemented, and that a settlement be based on the principles of international legitimacy," he told the Associated Press. Israel, Mr. Bishara cautioned, was expected to project different interpretations of the U.N. resolutions that would not be acceptable to the Arabs. "I feel the Israeli concept is that 242 does not mean withdrawal and relations with the countries directly concerned, but it seeks regional co-existence through a wide network of contacts and interests," he said.

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Bush: Madrid is first step

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush said Friday there is still a "long, long way to go" to achieve real peace in the Middle East. But he said the effort was worth it and the Madrid peace conference is an important first step.

"This is historic," Mr. Bush said several hours before he was to board Air Force One for the trip to Madrid to join Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in opening the conference, which begins Wednesday.

"I'm looking forward to this and I'm hoping that it will be a first step... in bringing peace to this part of the world that has suffered too long from war and conflict," Mr. Bush told a White House audience.

"I don't want to get people's hopes too high because there's a long, long way to go before we have the makings of or have agreement for peace in that troubled corner of the world," Mr. Bush said.

"But it's worth it, believe me it's worth it," he added, addressing a group of travel and tourism industry officials.

The president said that it was "only the United States, it is only our country, that can serve as this catalyst for peace."

Earlier, Secretary of State James Baker said the Bush administration is carefully following the law governing missile exports by Israel and other countries and will be evenhanded in the Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Baker's comments Sunday followed a newspaper report that Mr. Bush had waived sanctions against Israel for missile shipments to South Africa and a suggestion by Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens that the administration should favour Israel over its Arab neighbours.

The Washington Post reported in Sunday's editions that Mr. Bush notified Congress he would not invoke sanctions against Israel even though an Israeli government-allied firm had shipped missile components to the South African government-backed firm Armscor.

Legislation enacted by Congress last year calls for sanctions against foreign firms or nations that violate a 1987 international agreement on missile technology transfers.

The Post said the decision to waive the sanctions "was motivated in part by concern that punishing Israel would undermine its position" at the peace conference.

European support

Deputies from 29 European and Arab parliaments Monday expressed their support for the Madrid peace conference and said the meeting "will test the credibility of the new world order."

The legislator issued a joint statement after a three-day meeting of about 70 deputies in the Portuguese capital. The meeting was the first such exchange by Arab and European lawmakers since the Gulf war.

The statement said a just and lasting peace in the region must imply a recognition of Palestinians' rights to form their own state and the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories.

The deputies also called for the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in the region, an international moratorium on arms sales and international control of nuclear installations.

Arab delegations attending the Lisbon meeting were from Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Belgium, Austria, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Britain were the European nations present.

Jordanian-Palestinian delegation carries olive branch to Spain

By Sama Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein saw off the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and accompanying advisory committee as they left Amman Monday to Madrid to participate in the U.S.-Soviet-sponsored Middle East peace conference which opens on Wednesday.

As they boarded the Royal Jordanian (RJ) Tri-Star, every one of the 150-member group — members of the Palestinian and Jordanian teams, their media committees and members of the Jordanian and Palestinian press — were presented with olive branches by two young women dressed in the traditional Jordanian and Palestinian gowns.

King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Taher Masri, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zaid Ben Shaker, and Palestinian Ambassador Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim bade fare well to the delegation headed by Foreign Minister

Kamel Abu Jaber.

The Jordanian negotiating team is headed by Abdulla Salam Majali and the Palestinian negotiators are headed by Haidar Abdul Shafi.

Before he boarded the plane, Dr. Abu Jaber described the Madrid conference as an historic event and said he was "cautiously optimistic." He warned that the road to peace in the region was long and exhausting.

The negotiations will be very difficult because we are talking about basic issues that concern every person in the Arab Nation, especially our people here in Jordan and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip," Dr. Abu Jaber told the press.

The foreign minister vowed that the joint delegation would "place our issues on the table with all strength, clarity, honesty and decency."

Dr. Abu Jaber insisted that the joint delegation was not going to the conference to fight, but to make peace, adding that reasonable solutions could be reached if

Israel wanted to reach the same goal.

"Should the Israelis be in the mood to make peace, as we hope they are, I think reasonable men can reach reasonable solutions," he said.

Dr. Abu Jaber reassured that the two teams would present their issues with force and openness and that there was no intention of giving up any of their demands.

"We have no intention whatsoever on abandoning any of our rights," the foreign minister stressed.

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation is expected to insist that in order to make peace with Israel, the Jewish state must comply with Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which call on Israel to withdraw from the territories it occupied in 1967.

Dr. Abu Jaber commented on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's heading of his delegation, saying that it was Israel's

(Continued on page 5)

2 settlers killed, 5 wounded in West Bank shooting ambush

Occupied JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Two Jewish settlers were killed and five others were wounded Monday in a shooting attack on a bus in the occupied West Bank, the military command said.

The army said the attack occurred near Ariel, one of the largest West Bank Jewish settlements. It said those killed were the bus driver and a woman passenger standing next to him.

Israeli officials blamed Palestinian hardliners who oppose the upcoming Middle East peace conference in Madrid and vowed revenge.

Both hardline Arab and extremist Jewish groups have vowed to disrupt the peace forum.

Palestinian hardliners are afraid that Arab moderates will accept peace with Israel and lose the opportunity for forming an independent Palestinian state.

The attack occurred at 6:15 p.m. (1700 GMT) at Tappach junction, about 30 kilometres north of Jerusalem and about eight kilometres from Ariel.

It might also be used by Israel at the conference as an example of "security" concerns the Jewish state

has to face.

Settlers reacted angrily to the attack and urged the government to expel activists of the Islamic resistance movement Hamas which has called for armed attacks on Jewish settlers.

Israeli military censors, who normally delay publication for long periods to allow contacting relatives, gave almost immediate clearance of the report.

The news was broadcast on Israeli Radio stations as thousands of settlers converged on Tel Aviv for a demonstration in support of hardline positions at the Madrid peace talks.

Crowds poured into the square where Israeli advocates of a land-for-peace deal demonstrated Saturday, waving signs opposing any withdrawal from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Everyone, even the United States, recognises that Jerusalem is among the territories (Israel) occupied in 1967, which must be evacuated. Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine... it is a question of international law," Mr. Arafat told the daily *Le Figaro*.

But Mr. Arafat said the PLO recognised that Jerusalem also interested the Jews. "We do not want to build a new Berlin wall in the middle of Jerusalem."

Mr. Arafat will not be among delegates attending the Middle East peace conference in Madrid this week because Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who will lead Israel's delegation, told American television on Sunday: "If anybody will come and say he is nominated by the PLO, that he is getting instruction from the PLO, we will not sit

with him."

But Mr. Arafat reiterated to the French daily a statement that the organisation would nonetheless be represented at the talks, as every Palestinian belonged to the PLO.

In another interview, Mr. Arafat called for the dismantlement of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories if Israel withdraws from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In an interview with Radio France Internationale (RFI), Mr. Arafat was asked what would happen to Jews who have settled in the occupied territories.

"Is it their land?" Mr. Arafat responded. "International law and the U.N. resolutions say that the colonies are illegal and rest illegal in fact. The Jewish settlements in the Sinai were destroyed during the Israeli retreat of this territory."

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Turkey says it has withdrawn strike force from Iraq

ANKARA (Agencies) — Turkish forces have withdrawn from northern Iraq after carrying out an "annihilation operation" against separatist Turkish Kurds. "The operation is completed... it can resume on the same scale if necessary," General Staff spokesman Colonel Necdet Ipek told Reuters Monday. "This time they (rebels) were caught."

An Iraqi Kurdish radio station, monitored in southeast Turkey, said 12 people had been killed in Turkish raids on eight villages in northern Iraq.

The radio, run by the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP), said Barzan, the home village of KDP leader Massoud Barzani, had been among those hit.

A KDP spokesman said in Ankara Sunday three civilians had been killed and many wounded.

Turkey Monday again denied causing civilian casualties but the Foreign Ministry said in a statement Turkish teams would be sent to northern Iraq to investigate claims to the contrary.

Air-supported Turkish troops launched what they called an "annihilation operation" against the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) early Friday and withdrew Sunday, said Mr. Ipek.

The operation was in reprisal for an attack Thursday night by up to 500 guerrillas on the border post of Cayirli in the Hakkari province, in which 17 Turkish soldiers were killed.

The Anatolian report made no mention of any new activity by the air force, which made numerous sorties to pound Kurdish bases across the frontier since Friday. Local sources said, however, that there was no visible air activity Monday.

It was the third time in three months that the Turkish military crossed into Iraq in search of PKK rebels.

The separatist Kurds were officially reported to have suffered heavy casualties.

Kurdish guerrillas have been waging war since 1984 to set up an independent Kurdistan in southeastern Turkey where the borders of Iran, Iraq and Syria converge. More than 3,000 people, including civilians, security personnel and insurgents have died in clashes linked to the independence bid.

Meanwhile, four separatist Kurds were killed in two separate clashes with security forces in the southeast, the regional gov-

Explosions in Ankara kill American, Egyptian

ANKARA (Agencies) — Two separate explosions Monday killed a U.S. soldier and seriously wounded an Egyptian diplomat, police said.

An anonymous caller claimed the blasts in the name of Islamic Jihad. A Lebanese group by the same name holds several Western hostages.

"We will not allow imperialist powers to share the Middle East during the peace conference," the caller told two Turkish newspapers, referring to the peace talks opening in Madrid later this week.

Islamic Jihad has claimed attacks against Arab diplomats in Turkey in the past.

Two years ago Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for a car bomb attack in Ankara in which a Saudi Arabian diplomat lost his legs.

It was not clear if the group claiming responsibility for Monday's attack was linked to the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad which holds Western hostages in Leba-

nor's office said. Local sources said four soldiers were also killed.

Interior Minister Sabahattin Cakmakoglu said Sunday about 100 rebels were believed to have been killed in the battle, but the military's estimate was 60 to 70 PKK dead.

About 40 people, including civilian guards and two children from Cayirli village, were wounded in the clash. Seven other soldiers and a civilian died in other PKK attacks on Thursday.

Mr. Ipek said planes and assault helicopters had made 36 sorties against PKK positions on Friday and Saturday. No jets flew on Sunday because of mist but helicopters had been in action.

Mr. Cakmakoglu said the PKK had suffered heavy losses in the cross-border raid, but Mr. Ipek had no details.

He said troops had returned to Turkey late Sunday. The government said on Friday up to 4,000 men had been involved.

The two earlier Turkish thrusts into north Iraq followed PKK attacks on border posts in which nine soldiers were killed on 4 and 11 Oct. 7.

The PKK's independence campaign launched in mid-1984 has killed more than 3,300 people, including more than 90 Turkish soldiers and about 150 PKK rebels this year.

Mr. Ipek said troops at the Cayirli post had been prepared for a PKK attack and many were manning entrenched positions.

State-run television, showing film of a narrow, steep-sided valley on the border, said Turkish planes had caught the rebels in the open as they were retreating.

A civilian village guard told the television that rebels had been seen carrying dead or wounded comrades on their backs or slung on blankets up a mountain slope opposite Cayirli.

"The terrorists have strict orders not to leave bodies behind. This is partly to minimise the effects of the Turkish attacks and to keep up morale among their people," Mr. Ipek said.

He said Turkish troops had found mule tracks and bloodstains in valleys on the Iraqi side Sunday.

Turkey says the PKK is exploiting a power vacuum in northern Iraq created after allied troops forced Iraqi government units to leave the area in April to allow home some two million Kurds who fled towards Turkey and Iran.

On Friday, the Arab and Israeli delegations will get 15 or 20 minutes to respond to the previous day's speeches, said the sources. Mr. Baker and Mr. Pankin will sum up the proceedings with 20 minutes each, said the sources.

Also present in the room will be silent observers from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council, the five-nation Maghreb Arab Union and a U.N. representative, said the sources.

The organisers Sunday briefed the Arab and Israeli delegations on the emerging format and schedule.

Spreading out the speeches over 2½ days is designed to allow the participants to hold behind-the-scenes consultations and to help ease tensions, said the sources.

Secrecy has surrounded the details of the delicate and complex arrangements, being made by the joint American-Spanish team of diplomats.

Officials of the delegations will consult with their capitals about the proposals and might propose changes, said the sources.

The direct talks between the parties are being planned for Madrid next week despite objections from the participants, the sources said.

Israel prefers that the three separate sets of talks — Israel and Syria, Israel and Lebanon and Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation — take place in the Middle East.

The doctors are trying to save his arm, said an Egyptian diplomat. "We don't know who did this. It doesn't make sense."

Abdul Shafi to have equal time as Shamir in Madrid

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — To Israel's chagrin, the Palestinian delegate to the Arab-Israeli peace talks has been allotted equal time for his opening speech, even though he is part of a joint delegation with Jordan, diplomatic sources said.

The source of controversy is one of the details that began emerging Sunday after the joint Spanish-American-Soviet organising committee briefed the delegations' advance teams on conference logistics. Each advance team was consulting with its capital about the details and the format of the conference, which starts Wednesday.

Israel has asked how to respond to the news that the Palestinian, Haidar Abdul Shafi, will be allowed to speak for 45 minutes, the same amount of time as the other delegations, said the sources.

When the delegations arrive Wednesday morning in the columns room of the 18th-century royal palace, they will receive a handshake from King Juan Carlos, the sources said.

This will avoid unpleasantness over the refusal of some delegations — such as Syria — to shake hands with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The host, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain, will say a few words to open the conference, then U.S. President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will each speak 20 minutes, said the sources.

The delegation leaders, as well as co-sponsors Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, will be seated at a rectangular table. Behind them will sit the 13 members of each delegation.

Later Wednesday, the heads of the Egyptian and European Community (EC) delegations will speak for 45 minutes each. The 12-nation EC and Egypt are observers.

Thursday's session will consist of 45-minute speeches apiece by Israel, Jordan, the Palestinians, Syria and Lebanon, the sources said.

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U.S. ambassador undergoes surgery after car accident

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

in the collision, which occurred shortly after 9 a.m. (0700 GMT).

The embassy spokesman said in Amman that Ambassador Harrison was on his way to board a flight to Madrid, Spain, to attend the Middle East peace conference which opens Wednesday. The spokesman explained that there were no available flights from Amman Monday and hence the ambassador had crossed the river to board a flight to the Spanish capital.

The ambassador's condition is stable and he is expected to make a full recovery," a spokesman for the American Embassy in Amman said.

Reports from occupied Jerusalem said Mr. Harrison underwent surgery for "a serious stomach injury" at Hadassah Hospital in Ein Karem. An Israeli hospital spokeswoman was quoted as saying that the injury was not life-threatening. No further details were immediately available.

No other Jordan-based American diplomat was reported to have been involved in the incident. Reports said an Israeli woman — apparently the driver of the other car — was killed and four other people, including the driver of the American diplomatic vehicle and two other Israelis, were wounded



Roger Harrison

others wounded in the accident or whether the driver was Jordanian was not immediately known.

According to an Israeli police spokeswoman, the diplomatic car crashed head-on to a private Israeli automobile, a Subaru sedan, at an intersection to Jerusalem on the main highway to Tel Aviv. The ambassador was hoping to board a Madrid-bound flight from Israel's Ben Gurion airport, which is near Tel Aviv. Earlier reports had said that the car was on its way from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The deputy chief of mission at the American embassy in Amman, Douglas Keenan, is already in Madrid to attend the peace conference.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Syria hosts international narcotics meeting

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syria pledged Sunday to cooperate with a regional international anti-narcotics committee to combat illicit drug trafficking. Interior Minister Mohammad Harba made the pledge at the end of a three-day meeting of the committee, based in Cyprus. "Syria will utilise all its capabilities to combat drug trafficking and the serious social narcotic problem," Dr. Harba was quoted as telling the committee at the end of its three-day meeting by the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA). The main task of the committee is to combat drug production and smuggling from the Middle East, especially Lebanon, to the Western world. It groups anti-narcotic officers from the United States, Britain, Canada, Cyprus, France, Germany, Italy, a representative of the Scandinavian states and Interpol. This was the first time that Syria hosted the annual meeting of the committee. The Syrian military police much of Lebanon, including the eastern Bekaa Valley, one of the main hashish growing and cocaine processing centres in the region. SANA quoted Dr. Harba as urging international and regional cooperation to combat drug trafficking. "No country can do this on its own. There must be an exchange of experiences between organisations specialising in this problem," he said.

Oman bans 'Arabian Sands' after 30 years

DUBAI (R) — Oman has banned Wilfred Thesiger's book "Arabian Sands" which has been on sale in the Sultanate for more than 30 years, sources close to publishers in Muscat said Monday. The Omani Ministry of Information ordered the ban a few days after Arabic translations of the book, first published in 1959, went on sale. Ministry officials were not available for comment. The book, Mr. Thesiger, who travelled extensively in Oman and what is now the United Arab Emirates in the 1940s, depicted the lifestyle, environment and people of the region. Mr. Thesiger was in Oman earlier this month for the launch of the Arabic version of the book and Oman's Minister of National Heritage and Culture Faisal Ben Ali Ben Faisal attended a reception promoting it. When "Arabian Sands" was first published, British historian Lord Kinross said: "This is the book on Arabia to end them all."

S. European, Maghreb countries to hold summit

ALGIERS (R) — South European and North African countries agreed Sunday to hold their first summit in Tunis early next year to strengthen cooperation. Algerian Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi announced the summit after meeting counterparts from France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. Malta attended as an observer. A final statement said the ministers urged the Middle East peace conference opening in Madrid this week to adopt confidence-building measures, including a halt in new settlements in the Israeli-occupied territories. The five members of the Arab Maghreb Union with the support of Italy said they were calling on participants at the Madrid conference to avoid radical and intransigent stands. The statement said the European countries promised to press the European Community to lift sanctions against Libya, accused by Europeans of involvement in "terrorist" activities. The statement said participants decided to set up working groups on immigration, technology, infrastructure, food self-sufficiency, environment and culture and to work on establishing a multilateral body.

Tanks for Israel listed as farm equipment

HAMBURG, Germany (R) — Tanks bound for Israel have been discovered on an Israeli ship in the German port of Hamburg, officials said Monday. Export papers listed them as "agricultural equipment." The tanks were found by police at the weekend on board the boat Palma, the regional prosecutor's office said. Investigators were looking into whether the shipment violated strict German laws barring weapons exports to crisis regions. The spokesman declined to specify the number or types of tanks found. He said authorities believed the tanks came from stocks of the former East German military, disbanded when the two Germanies united in 1990.

Iraqi paper: Madrid talks dangerous

BAGHDAD (R) — An Iraqi newspaper said Monday any agreement from the Madrid Middle East peace talks would be like a barrel of explosives awaiting a lit match. Babil said the talks were aimed at the "imposition of American-Israeli conditions which are now included under a banner which says peace for peace, instead of land for peace." It said: "Stability based on rewarding the aggressor will be nothing but a barrel of explosives waiting for a match to be struck, tearing to pieces all humiliating treaties." It said the leaders of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria — three states which joined the United States in ousting Iraq from Kuwait — were "playing the role of real American agents and direct allies of Israel." It seems that Israel is the only party in the region with its nuclear gun pointed at Arab heads, particularly those not taking part in the negotiations." This was a reference to reports that Israel is building nuclear weapons which are not subject to United Nations scrutiny. Baghdad's nuclear programme is being dismantled by the U.N. under Gulf war ceasefire terms.

Red Cross to establish office in Kuwait

GENEVA (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) announced Monday that it would set up a regional office in Kuwait to promote respect for international humanitarian law in the Gulf. ICRC President Corneille Sommaruga flew to Kuwait from his Geneva headquarters to sign the agreement for the office, which will cover Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Bahrain. Before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the attention in the region was on prisoners-of-war taken during the Iran-Iraq war of 1980-88. The ICRC maintains a sub-office in the Saudi capital Riyadh, visiting 13,000 Iraqi PoWs who have requested refugee status, as well as a further 22,000 civilian refugees who fled southern Iraq into Saudi Arabia. In Kuwait the ICRC visits detainees and civilians protected under the 1949 Geneva conventions, among them Palestinians and others who do not have an embassy to represent them.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

04:20 ... Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ) ... Agaba (RJ)
06:30 ... Muscat, Dubai (RJ) ... Muscat (RJ)

07:30 ... Doha, Bahrain (RJ) ... Doha (RJ)
11:30 ... London (RJ) ... London (RJ)
12:35 ... New York, Newark (RJ) ... Newark (RJ)
17:25 ... Frankfurt (RJ) ... Frankfurt (RJ)
19:30 ... Tripoli (RJ) ... Tripoli (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

19:35 ... Beirut (ME) ... Beirut (ME)
11:45 ... Bucharest (ME) ... Bucharest (ME)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple 175/160
Banana 500/450
Banana (Musketeer) 550/500
Beans 550/500
Cabbage 250/200
Carrot 170/100
Cauliflower 240/200
Cucumbers (large) 150/100
Cucumbers (small) 350/300
Eggs 250/200
Grape 500/400
Grapes 500/400
Guya 400/350
Lemon 400/350
Marrow (large) 260/150
Marrow (small) 320/200
Okra 150/100
Onion (dry) 850/750
Pepper (hot) 260/200
Potato 300/250
Sage 300/250
Sesame 600/500
Sesame (Almond) 600/500
Sesame (Black) 600/500
Sesame (White) 600/500
Sesame (White) 600/500
Sesame (White) 600/500
Spanish 600/500
Sweet melon 240/200
Tomatoes 350/300
Watermelon 140/100

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:45 ... Amman, New York (RJ) ... New York (RJ)
10:45 ... Brussels, London (

Jordanians sceptical of peace parley

By Jamal Halaby
Associated Press

AMMAN — Most Jordanians view Wednesday's Arab-Israeli peace conference as something of a shotgun wedding. But they're determined to make the best of it, even if many hold out little hope of a lasting Middle East settlement.

Jordan had little option but to tag along with the U.S. peace initiative given the Kingdom's political stand during the Gulf crisis and the economic battering that it brought in its wake.

Even some leaders of the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood, the country's most vociferous opponent of negotiating with Israel and its most powerful political party, agree with that.

"Economic problems and security threats would have increased for Jordan if it had not agreed to participate in the talks," said Ahmad Outeish Ayazeh, spokesman for the Brotherhood's 22-member Parliamentary bloc.

His Majesty King Hussein himself cited the deteriorating economy, coupled with mounting unemployment and dwindling domestic resources, as one of the key reasons for Jordan's

participation in the peace process.

"Jordan is practically under siege," the King told a recent gathering of 2,500 Jordanian notables. "Jordan has both unemployment and hunger."

The Palestinians, diplomatically alienated for the same reasons as Jordan, also had no choice but to drop their demand for their own delegation and agree to attend the talks in a joint team with the Jordanians.

In Amman's fashionable neighbourhoods and the squalid slums and refugee camps in the capital's suburbs, the conference is on everyone's lips — particularly what could transpire if negotiations between the Kingdom and Israel actually take place.

The Kingdom's 3.2 million people, half of them Palestinians, appear to be evenly split on whether Israel's uncompromising terms will be imposed on the Arabs with American blessing or whether the Arabs stand a chance of realistic negotiations with the Jewish state.

"What do we have to lose by sitting down and discussing peace with Israel?" asked electrician Ibrahim Hababneh as he sipped coffee in a crowded downtown Amman cafe.

"We have a very just cause and we can always just get up and walk out if the Israelis don't give us anything."

Such brave talk exposes the real fears of many who feel that there's little chance of Israel giving up any part of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights — all territories it captured in the 1967 Middle East war.

"There's no way Israel would agree to return all territories, least of all Jerusalem," said Mohammad Khalil, a native of Hebron in the West Bank, who fled to Jordan in 1967 and lives in Amman.

"But then how long can we afford to continue like this? It's only a matter of time before Israel gobbles up all the land and tells the Arabs to go to hell," said Mr. Khalil, an engineer.

Although Jordan will not seek to reclaim the West Bank at the Madrid talks, it has a hefty interest in seeing the Palestinians achieve self-government.

Israeli hardliners argue that Jordan, already home to 1.7 million Palestinians, should become the Palestinian homeland.

Many say that the only way

the Israelis will make any concessions on the occupied territories and halting the construction of Jewish settlements there is if the Americans lean on them.

The belief that, after decades of unstinting support for Israel, the Americans are now prepared to twist Israel's arm has gained currency in recent days.

Its adherents cite the Bush administration's delay in having Congress consider Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees to absorb the current flood of Soviet Jewish immigrants.

Jordanian hardliners believe that the Jewish state is only interested in normalising relations with the Arabs without surrendering the occupied land which many Israelis consider vital to their security.

"Peace talks with Israel are nonsense since it doesn't want a settlement based on exchanging land for peace," argued Ahmad Oweidi Abbadi, a tribal leader and member of the 80-man Lower House of Parliament.

"The conference will only lead Jordan to a catastrophe," he said. "If the conference fails, which it will, I predict extremism and instability in Jordan."

Local journalists decry their exclusion from covering Madrid peace conference

By Serene Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As the historic Middle East peace conference scheduled to open in Madrid Wednesday draws nearer, many Jordanian journalists who have extensively covered negotiations leading up to the partly find themselves tossed out in the cold and deprived of a ringside seat.

Only the chief editors of the four daily newspapers in Jordan Al Ra'i, Sawt Al Shaab, Al Dustour and the Jordan Times have been named to cover the peace conference, one exception is Al Dustour, which has assigned a reporter to accompany its editor in chief to the conference.

"Every newspaper reserves the right to send who ever it decides to cover the conference," said Hashem Khreisat, the editor-in-chief of Sawt Al Shaab. "But the expenses to send more than one reporter are tremendous and could reach up to \$500 per person, per day, and local newspapers cannot afford to pay that amount."

On the other hand, Rami Khouri, a political commentator and a well-known local journalist, said that the cost question is an unconvincing excuse and can be overcome in many ways, such as pool reporting.

"Perhaps there are other reasons that are not known to us, but in any case it seems peculiar not to send reporters

to cover the biggest news story in the region since 1947," Mr. Khouri said.

Mr. Khreisat, who is also president of the Jordan Press Association, said that "it seems the arrangements are linked to Spain's policies regarding the conference which will witness a vast flood of journalists. For this reason, the number of journalists to cover the conference from each country has been restricted."

But an official from the Spanish embassy in Jordan told the Jordan Times that his government had not put such restrictions on news organisations. He added that the only requirements for journalists wishing to cover the conference are a visa and a letter of attestation from their respective news establishments as well as a copy of their journalist card.

The Jordanian government is paying the expenses of representatives from its news agencies — Jordan Radio and Television Corporation and the Jordan News Agency, Petra, — as well as one-way plane tickets for all Jordanian media representatives that are going to cover the conference in Madrid, Foreign Ministry sources told the Jordan Times.

The cost of sending representatives to Madrid has especially affected small local papers such as English-language weekly The Star, and the Arabic tabloid Shabab, which will not dispatch any of their reporters to this conference to

be senders rather than receivers," Miss Faraj said.

She explained that local reporters, as well as their respective newspapers are accustomed to receiving information from foreign news agencies, such as Reuters, United Press International and Agence France Presse, regarding events affecting this region. That is why she said she felt that this opportunity should be granted to veterans who have covered the region extensively, so that they can cover this conference "using their own judgements and experiences."

Yet Mahmoud Al Kayed, the editor-in-chief of Al Ra'i, maintained that the decision of the local papers to send only the editors to cover the conference was sound.

"This is our general policy and I think that sending the editors to cover this important event is enough," Mr. Al Kayed said.

According to independent sources, 35 Palestinian reporters departed from Amman yesterday accompanying the Palestinian delegation to the conference; a number of other Palestinian reporters will also join them from different countries around the world.

The sources also said that the Spanish capital would be hosting an army of international media representatives, totalling around 4,500 reporters, who will be assigned to cover the opening ceremony only.

Zarqa residents set up committee to help expatriates

ZARQA (Petra) — Expatriates living in Zarqa have set up an investment committee to help guide expatriate investors to utilise their capital in small and medium-sized projects to earn them a steady income.

The announcement was made by a special committee in charge of the expatriate affairs during a meeting held in the presence of the Zarqa governor and local officials.

In reviewing the expatriates' affairs and the damage they sustained as a result of the Gulf conflict, Committee Chairman Mohammad Milhem presented ideas to solve the expatriates' problems and voiced his appreciation of the government's support for his group.

Nafeel Abbas, a member of the committee, said that most of the



Queen praises ADC for efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday addressed the 1991 Annual American-Arab Anti-discrimination fund-raising banquet in Los Angeles, which was attended by more than 750 people.

Also present were A.D.C. Chairman Senator James Abourezk and A.D.C. National President Albert Mokhiber.

In her address, Queen Noor praised A.D.C.'s "struggle since 1980 against stereo-typing, discrimination and ethnic or religious oppression" which has "responded to the real needs and hopes of Arab-Americans."

The Queen described to the predominantly Arab-American audience the recent changes that are taking place in the Arab World in general and in Jordan in particular, and the democratisation process that has occurred in Jordan and other Arab countries.

"We seek nothing less than an Arab renaissance," the Queen said. "The next phase will encompass more coherent, consistent and constructive relations among the Arab countries and a rethinking of our sometimes strained ties with the major western powers."

The Queen underlined the need for Arab-Americans to respond to the new challenges facing the Arab World and their contribution to promoting a better understanding between the Arab and American peoples.

"You can help us to build a truly new Arab order, and to generate more positive ties between the Arab World and the West. If you value the emerging Arab democratic transformation, you must strengthen this process by your recognition and appreciation, by speaking of it in this country and elsewhere in the West. Your help is also vital for the success of current efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict," she said.

At the same event, Norma Odeh, widow of martyr Alex Odeh, presented to former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark the Alex Odeh Humanitarian Award for his unrelenting efforts in the area of human rights.

Queen Noor paid tribute to

Mr. Clark's efforts to "convey to the American people the intense human suffering and destruction of modern technological warfare."

Higher education and their contribution to the labour market.

Lima Matar, from Lebanon, presented a working paper, tackling the population situation in her country, the educational system and the role of women in economic and social fields. Mrs. Matar recommended that a general census be held to determine the exact size of population, their level of education and the their future needs.

Dr. Shafa Bafiqi, from Yemen, submitted a paper on Yemeni women and their early marriages. Her paper also featured strict measures to be imposed by the concerned authorities in the Arab World to help eradicate illiteracy.

Nimet Sabelash, from the University of Jordan, submitted a working paper dealing with Jordanian women's pursuit of

Mohammad's Army trial resumes; prosecution begins presenting evidence

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The State Security Court in Marka resumed its sessions Monday when it heard Prosecutor General Major Mohammad Hijazi read out statements given by the 18 defendants.

Without naming the defendants who gave the statements, the prosecutor general said that the group, all affiliated to the so-called "Mohammad's Army," had been trying to acquire a 106-calibre mortar to carry out their terrorist operations.

Only four lawyers out of 15 showed up at the court.

The various illegal actions committed by Mohammad's Army members were listed as follows:

- conspiring to bring about a change in the country's constitution by illegitimate means;
- acquisition of explosives and handgrenades to blow up various institutions;
- acquisition of automatic weapons to be used in assassinations of various personalities;
- committing terrorist actions by blowing up cars, etc.;
- affiliation to a banned group

(Mohammad's Army); and — collection of donations for this organisation.

The prosecutor general explained that the group started organising its members as far back as 1978 when they also maintained relationship with the Muslim Brotherhood group.

Dr. Abdullah Azzam, who had fought in Afghanistan in 1986, returned to Jordan in 1988 and recruited Sami Abu Zeidan, one of Mohammad's Army members with whom he agreed on arrangements for setting up the clandestine group in Jordan, according to the prosecutor general.

He said that Mr. Abu Zeidan embarked on his criminal actions in 1988 when he started collecting donations and recruiting members for his army. He added that the members had received training in the use of weapons and were conducting shooting exercises near Wadi Seer, Karak and other remote areas.

The prosecutor general told the court that group members were trained in the manufacture of explosives employing local materials.

One of the accused, Fuad Deneh, has admitted to sur-

veying an army barracks near the Al Hussein Medical City prior to storming it to steal weapons while another, Habes Sandouqa, was given orders to attack a bookkeeper of a supermarket near the Fifth Circle.

According to the prosecutor general, some members of Mohammad's Army actually fired automatic weapons at the British Bank of Al Whidat District and later escaped in a car. He said that the accused, Mohammad Dajani, attacked and burnt a restaurant near the Eighth Circle and that Fuad Deneh had planted an explosive charge under the car of a church minister at the Gandawil District.

Another defendant, Mohammad Khalifeh, had opened fire from his automatic gun on a liquor store in Amman.

Before adjourning the session until next Monday, Court Judge Yousef Faouri demanded that the accused provide fresh statements about their actions and he also ordered that the court be supplied with medical reports and the coroner's report about the victims in these actions.

Amman Chamber of Industry calls for plan to clean up waste

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry Monday called on Jordanian industries to try to benefit from the industrialised world's experiences in the treatment of industrial waste and projection of the environment.

The call was made by the chamber's director general Dr. Mohammad Salameh Al Halaiqa, during a symposium on industrial environment attended by representatives of the industrial sector in the Kingdom. Two foreign experts in industrial environment from the World Environment Centre based in New York delivered lectures at the symposium, supporting Mr. Halaiqa's

views. The two experts said that it

was encouraging to see a great number of Jordanian industrial businesses responding favourably to the requirements of protecting the environment.

The two foreign experts stressed that their centre would offer assistance in overcoming problems encountered by Jordanian industries.

Participants in the symposium discussed problems encountered in the industrial sector means of disposing of industrial waste and cooperation with international organisations to protect the environment in Jordan.

Role, contributions and restrictions on Arab women discussed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day seminar on population education and the role of Arab women went into a second day of discussions Monday with delegates from 14 Arab states reviewing eight working papers dealing with topics ranging from women activities to the eradication of illiteracy in the Arab World.

One of the working papers was presented by Rafika Hammoud from Bahrain University in which she reviewed the level and type of education offered to Bahraini women. The paper proposed strict measures to be imposed by the concerned authorities in the Arab World to help eradicate illiteracy.

Nimet Sabelash, from the University of Jordan, submitted a working paper dealing with Jordanian women's pursuit of

Symposium delegates call for rationalisation of water

AMMAN — A two-day symposium on Jordan's water resources and their future potentials ended at the University of Jordan Monday with participants issuing a set of recommendations stressing the need to rationalise water consumption and use in light of available resources.

Modern technology should be used in the irrigation sector and water resources management should be upgraded, a statement said. The delegates requested that concerned authorities apply legislations and regulations on water in various sectors.

The delegates to the symposium, organised by the University of Jordan in conjunction with the Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung and the Higher Council for Science and Technology, reviewed a number of working papers dealing with water uses and means of developing water resources to meet the growing demand in the Kingdom.

Conference to address plight of handicapped in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Swedish medical conference on the rehabilitation of handicapped children will open at the University of Jordan today and delegates from Sweden and Jordan as well as from the World Health Organisation (WHO) will review a number of working papers on disability and rehabilitation, according to Dr. Mohammad Khatib, deputy dean of the university's Faculty of Medicine.

The three-day conference, he said, will review working papers dealing with complications and problems resulting in disabilities and means of help.

Japan donates JD 237,000 to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government of Japan has donated a set of equipment for language education worth \$346,000 (JD 237,000) to the Language Center of the University of Jordan through its cultural grant aid programme. The equipment includes language laboratory unit, audio visual equipment and others to contribute to the promotion of language education, including the opening of Japanese language study course at the University of Jordan. Notes to this effect were exchanged at the Ministry of Planning Monday between Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz and Ambassador of Japan to Jordan Tadashi Nonoyama. Japan has so far provided Jordan with a number of equipment worth over \$2.8 million (JD 1.9 million) in cultural aid.

On anniversary, Jordan Anti-smoking Society calls for measures to protect public health

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Anti-smoking Society Monday called on the Health Ministry and other concerned authorities to put into practice national programmes designed to combat smoking.

The society president, Dr. Zuber Malhas, stressed the linkage between smoking and diseases resulting from smoking and demanded that a national programme to fight smoking be carried out so as to stem the spread of the habit.

Dr. Malhas, a former health minister, was speaking at a special ceremony held at the Royal Cultural Centre Monday marking the society's 10th anniversary. The ceremony was attended by representatives of various organisations and an audience of invited guests.

Dr. Malhas told the audience

that the society was seeking, through a number of programmes, to stem the spread of smoking, especially through the media.

But Dr. Malhas complained that the continued planting of tobacco in Jordan remains one of the biggest stumbling blocks in the society's path.

According to the society's president, 70 per cent of Jordanian adults smoke. There is a need to reduce this number in view of Jordan's requirements to have more food produced for the growing population, he said.

The society has organised a series of seminars and carried out activities designed to combat smoking. In 1988, the Health Ministry banned smoking in all cinemas, theatres, libraries, public transport vehicles and

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Recipe for trouble

FROM HIS point of view, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker could be right to see no linkage between Arab-Israeli negotiations and Palestinian-Israeli negotiations. "If we can make progress towards peace on any front we'd like to see it, without holding that possible progress hostage for a complete and comprehensive solution," Mr. Baker was quoted as saying on Saturday.

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was of the same opinion. But Mr. Kissinger's remarks were more indicative. He said: "If the (U.S.) administration achieves a series of one or two limited agreements it will have served the country and the peace of the world very well."

We completely disagree with Mr. Kissinger. We by now know that what the former secretary said is the aim of the Israeli side. Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud bloc had made clear that they badly want peace agreements with their Arab neighbours, but without conceding any land, especially Palestinian territory in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Israelis would very dearly run after separate treaties with every state in the region but excluding the Palestinians, leaving the core issue without solution, and thus prolonging the agony of the Palestinians and annexing what remains of Palestine. This is very dangerous, especially for Jordan where a great percentage of the Palestinians lives. Arabs, particularly Jordan, realise this. This is why the most important decision taken in last week's Damascus Arab foreign ministers' meeting emphasised the importance of the conference reaching solutions for all Arab-Israeli conflicts. Syrian President Hafez Al Assad also made this clear in his interview with CNN television. The Syrian leader said there would be great danger in solving some of the conflicts and leaving others to brew and explode in the future. The Arabs seek a just and comprehensive solution to all the region's standing problems, on top of which is the Arab/Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Anything short of that will be a prescription for future troubles.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Monday expressed the view that the Madrid parley represents a testing ground for the U.S. administration and its real intentions and an arena where President Bush comes face to face with Mr. Shamir and his adamant stand vis-a-vis peace with the Arabs. The paper said that when the peace conference begins Wednesday the whole world community should side with justice and support the Arab rights by exposing the injustice and the intransigent position of the Israeli prime minister and his government. The Madrid parley is not a matter of concern to the Arabs alone, it is rather a ground for Israel to show whether it is inclined to pursue peace efforts and respect the international legitimacy, the paper added. But it should be noted that the credibility of the United States would be jeopardised worldwide if it allows the Israeli to continue their defiance of the world community and at the same time continue to enjoy backing from America, the paper said. It said that by going to Madrid at the head of the Israeli delegation, Mr. Shamir has posed a challenge to President Bush and to the whole world community; and it is up to them to see that he abides by the rules and principles of international legality, the paper added. Should the Madrid conference fail to achieve fruitful results, the responsibility will be placed squarely on the United States which holds the power over Israel and its destiny, the paper stressed. The paper also said that President Bush, who is still waging war on the Iraqi children and women by starving them, should prove his credibility as a protector of the international legitimacy for which he launched the war against Iraq.

Al Dastour daily echoed King Hussein's statement to the American television network CNN by saying that Jordan is going to the peace conference not for the sake of participating in the talks, but for the achievement of a just and durable peace. What Jordan needs, the paper said, is a permanent and sustainable peace that can be accepted by the future generations and can be defended by all parties to the present conflict. Jordan will join hands with the other parties in the peace-making process if the aim is to implement U.N. resolutions that safeguard the interests of all people of the region, the paper stressed. The chronic Palestine problem lies at the heart of the conflict and has been the cause for so many tragedies for all the peoples of the Middle East; therefore, Jordan will be directing its attention and that of other parties towards a just settlement to the Palestinian-Israeli issue the paper pointed out. It said that the present opportunity should not be missed because any failure could mean pushing the region into a dark tunnel with unpredictable consequences for the coming generations. In order for the peace conference to succeed, the paper concluded, Israel must be made to freeze the settlements and should announce its readiness to implement the Security Council resolutions that guarantee the exchange of land for peace.

The View from Fourth Circle

Madrid and beyond: 1920, once again

By Rami G. Khouri

resolutions requiring an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, but all to no avail, for the mandate will prevail.

The rest of Lebanon is a Syrian mandated territory, formally linked to Syria in a bilateral cooperation and coordination agreement that is the prototype of the neo-mandatory arrangements that now pertain in this region. It is the indigenous semitic version of the defence accords in the Gulf that provide the legal umbrella for neo-protectorates.

3. The physical integrity, national identity, and political status of several Middle Eastern countries are once again in question, and those countries are taking on new shapes. There are several examples. Lebanon is one, as it gradually reintegrates itself into its traditional historical role as the western periphery of Greater Syria. This is not necessarily a bad thing, if the Syrians and Lebanese want it to happen. If it is the start of the reconstitution of larger and more viable national entities that traditionally flourished in this region (Assyria, Mesopotamia, Egypt, etc.), and the first signs of the reversal of the fragmentation of the Arab World carried out by the Western imperial powers around 1920, then it could be a positive development. Time will tell.

Somalia is breaking up into the former imperial territories of British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland. How this will turn out in the end is not clear, but it is very clear that the unified Somali state has not been a global trendsetter in national viability. Djibouti is similarly torn by internal pressures, as the tribes of the Afars and the Issas seek either to assert their dominance or to split and form their own mini-states, veritable Disney Toy countries that can only survive by selling themselves at birth to the highest regional or international bidder.

Sudan is similarly split into northern and southern regions, ravaged by civil war and drought, the concept of statehood exposed as a cruel fiction in the absence of a national accord on the meaning and purpose of statehood.

The Western Sahara, a vast, empty land on the periphery of Arabism, nevertheless struggles with great questions of identity and allegiance. It is soon to determine its fate, whether as an independent state or part of Morocco. Its people matter, but its minerals obviously matter more. Meanwhile, the people of Mauritania press their leaders for more democratic rule, demanding a more equitable and responsive order, reiterating the pleas for individual rights and national dignity that were first uttered by those Arabs who sought freedom from Ottoman rule and Western tutelage at the turn of the century.

The former states of north and south Yemen have already reunited, reversing over a century of British colonial rule in Aden and the south, and decades of artificial independence for the two former Yemeni states. But Yemen is a poor and tortured land, valiantly trying to affirm the supremacy of civil society over the powerful forces of tribalism. The experiment is young, and may or may not succeed. Yemen, too, has mineral wealth in the form of oil, and oil emits a stench that tickles the noses of Western commercial lords thousands of miles away. Oil will bring the imperial vultures to southeastern Arabia in the 1990s as it brought the commercial vultures from London and Paris to northern Iraq and Iran in the 1920s and 1930s.

Palestine and Zionism continue their struggle for existence and identity in Palestine, fighting, talking, and posturing in a protracted struggle that has not stopped since 1895. In nearly 100 years, the fundamental rights and relationships of these two people in Palestine have not been resolved to the satisfaction of all.

Palestine and Jordan are once again trying to work out their natural, symbiotic relationship. They were a single natural unit from the day of Creation until 1947, when they were separated by the establishment of Israel. They were united in the early 1950s, and then separated again in 1968, yet all the time feeling that they need to develop a more durable relationship that serves them both. This, too, remains

to be worked out.

The north and south of Iraq are also up for grabs, prizes for the most clever participants in the game of Arab Monopoly, a game in which countries are mere properties to be bought, sold and traded, whether by foreign or regional powers or autocratic indigenous leaderships.

4. Today as in 1920, the Kurds are the losers once again, as they suffer the repeated indignity of being used by local and Western powers as pawns in a vicious game of imperial power politics. They negotiate, they flee to the mountains, they resist and fight assorted enemies, and in the end they are forgotten, until they become useful in the next crisis, the next imperial move. They teach the world about places called Zakho and Dohuk, and then the world quickly forgets, because the American secretary of state no longer travels to visit the Kurds on their cold mountainside of death.

5. As the Middle East struggles with all of these indigenous issues and forces — borders, identities, rights, political relationships, profits — the attention of the world focuses on a conference in Europe, a gathering that may determine the destiny of the Middle East for many decades to come. Early this century, we followed many other conferences, in Paris, San Remo, Sevres, and other European cities, and we heard grand proclamations from the American president, Woodrow Wilson, about a new world based on the self-determination of all peoples. Here we watch Madrid, and once again listen to the political oratory of an American president who speaks of a new world order, a better world ruled by law and justice. We have been here before. We have navigated this complex landscape. We have heard these men say all of these things before. So, why are we here again? Why are the Kurds dying on the mountains once again, the Palestinians and Zionists clashing in Palestine, treaties of protectorates and mandates signed once again between parties exchanging cash, sharing fear, and wallowing in their blindness to the truths of humankind and history?

We are here, of course, because we are destined to suffer the full consequences of the lies, duplicitous, falsehoods, artificialities, conveniences, and imperial greed of the 1920s, which in turn generated an Arab order that has been unjust, untenable and unstable. We see that most of the Middle East today is ravaged by instability and economic regression, if not outright warfare and civil strife, because the state system and domestic political orders that came out of the 1920s were unnatural, and could not survive.

Therefore, today we see neo-protectorates and neo-mandates, Arab states crumbling at their peripheries, fake little Arab mini-states scrambling to buy a few more years in the massive parlor of nation-states, imperial armies re-establishing bases in the area, a frenzied Israeli state unsure of how long it can rely on its guns for its survival as an alien fortress state in the area, and Arabs in their tens of millions turning to God for the identity that has been denied them by their governments.

We see the whole world converging on Madrid, seeking to resolve the mess that was spawned by British and French imperial arrogance in the 1920s. We see the one-and-a-half superpowers of today's world working diligently to stabilise the Middle East. We see frantic diplomacy, focused yet again on assuring the rights of Palestinians and Zionists in Palestine.

In many ways, 1991 is a replay of the period around 1920, but this time we are more aware of the imperial game, we know the fears of scared and insecure local serfs who cower bondage as a means of survival. If we are to succeed today where we failed in the 1920s, we would do well to learn the lessons of history. We must finally bury the presumptuous yet dangerous innocence of Western powers who claim to have overcome the forces of history, without their realising that it is history itself that has driven them to Madrid — poking and prodding them all the way from Texas, like reluctant cattle, trying to avoid their destiny, but doomed to face it.

Middle East peace conference a triumph for U.S. power

By Alan Elsner
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The peace conference opening in Madrid on Wednesday is a high-water mark for U.S. prestige and power in the troubled Middle East.

Following on its victories in the cold war and in the Gulf, the United States has cajoled reluctant Arabs and Israelis for the first time to begin face-to-face negotiations aimed at ending their decades-old conflict.

"It's been an enormous exhibition of power and persuasion to get this going. Merely by convening the conference, the United States has changed the parameters of the Middle East peace conference," said Barry Rubin, a Middle East scholar with Johns Hopkins University.

By coaxing the parties to the table, Mr. Rubin argues, Washington with support from co-sponsor Moscow transformed the conflict from one about the existence and survival of Israel to one about where its permanent borders will be set.

Trading heavily on its undisputed position as the world's only superpower, the United States had no compunction either in exerting its own power or in exploiting the weaknesses of others to bring the rival parties to the table.

In a dramatic power play, President George Bush refused to deal with an Israeli request for economic aid in the form of loan guarantees worth \$10 billion, while negotiations to convene the conference were in progress.

In doing so, he handed the powerful American pro-Israel lobby a humiliating defeat.

But that battle has left Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir bruised and full of distrust towards the United States. It might also have persuaded the Arabs that all they have to do is sit back and let Mr. Bush deliver a string of Israeli concessions at the table.

That could be a mistake. A balanced U.S. position that enjoys the trust of both sides is vital if the negotiations are to make

progress. "We welcome a U.S. role as a mediator. What worries us is when the broker becomes an arbitrator," said one Israeli source in Washington.

Mr. Bush now has to rebuild his fences with Mr. Shamir, whom he will meet in Madrid. The tone and substance of that meeting will be crucial.

On the other side of the conflict, Secretary of State James Baker forced Palestinians to accept what many regarded as humiliating Israeli terms to attend the peace conference — no Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), no representatives from East Jerusalem or of Palestinians in exile.

Mr. Baker insisted that Palestinians had the most to gain from the negotiations and the most to lose if there were no talks.

As victor in the cold war, the United States could afford to be magnanimous towards the Soviet Union, allowing Moscow into the Middle East picture as a junior partner after decades of total exclusion from Arab-Israeli peace efforts.

Permitting Moscow to co-sponsor the peace conference put an international stamp on the talks, easing Arab suspicions of taking part in an event totally dominated by Washington.

But the reality of the situation foiled no one.

The collapse of Soviet power left Syria without a superpower sponsor and in desperate need of a relationship with the United States. The price of that was participation in direct peace talks with the hated Zionist enemy.

Now the United States must prevent Syria from winning control of the Arab negotiating position and dictating a uniformly强硬 stance in the talks.

Syria refused to take part in regional talks with Israel on issues such as sharing water, arms control, refugees and the environment. It is trying to persuade other Arabs not to attend the talks, to which Israel attaches enormous importance, until Israel gives up occupied territories.

What matters is not what happens in the conference room but what happens in the corridors," said Mr. Indyk.

"The question is: Will there be

a sign from one or both sides that they want to get down to business?"

Few expect the formal speeches to show flexibility.

"It will be more of a television spectacular than an opportunity to learn what the real positions of the parties are," said Middle East expert Richard Murphy, a former assistant secretary of state now with the Council on Foreign Relations.

Ironically, solving the Middle East crisis has become less important to U.S. foreign policy than it was during the 1970s and '80s when the U.S. economy was rocked by Arab oil embargoes and the region was a potential superpower flashpoint.

"Mr. Bush now has unprecedented power in the Middle East. ... turning that power into peace will require skill and subtlety, patience, toughness ..."

But Mr. Bush now has unprecedented power in the Middle East.

Most analysts say that turning that power into peace will require skill and subtlety, patience, toughness and probably eventually huge amounts of money to compensate each side for the sacrifices it will have to make to gain peace.

Breakthrough or deadlock? The speeches will be hardline, the tone shrill, the language unyielding. But will the Middle East peace conference take a step towards solving the Arab-Israeli conflict — or will it be a breakthrough to a dead end?

"There ought to be an ability of the parties to work something out on interim self-government arrangements (for Palestinians)," a senior U.S. official said.

But the official called the dispute between Israel and Syria over the Golan Heights "the toughest nut." He said talks over the strategic plateau would be

"very tough."

Before the 1967 war, Syria

used the Heights to lob missiles

and artillery shells at Israeli vil-

lages in the Jordan Valley below.

Israel's control of the territory

after 1967 put it within artillery

range of Damascus.

But conference speeches might reveal some hints of progress even on this issue.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"If Syria in its speech makes any attempt to address Israeli security concerns on the Golan Heights, then we might have a serious process," said Robert Satloff, a scholar on Arab issues.

"But if Syria simply reiterates

United Nations resolutions then we have a stalemate," he said.

Similarly, Mr. Shamir may or may not indicate in his speech a willingness at least to talk about the future of the Golan Heights, which Israel virtually annexed in 1981 and currently say it will not

return over.

There are at least three issues that could cause the fragile peace process to break down before it is properly established — the role of the PLO, Israeli settlements and the venue for bilateral negotiations to follow the Madrid conference.

Israel is entering the talks on condition that the PLO be kept out of them because it sees the organisation as committed to destroying the Jewish state through terrorism.

But the distinction between PLO and non-PLO Palestinians is somewhat artificial. Most, if not all, of the Palestinian delegates to the conference give at least nominal allegiance to PLO headquarters in Tunis.

Making things even more delicate — a Palestinian steering committee — made up of individuals Israel would not accept on the delegation itself — will be in Madrid as liaison between the official representatives and Tunis.

Mr. Indyk said Mr. Shamir had taken "a good deal of PLO sta-

tic" and would probably have to endure more as the Palestinians try to blur the line between the delegation and the PLO.

But Mr. Satloff said the interplay between the delegation and the PLO was more subtle. Palestinians inside the territories rather than PLO chief Yasser Arafat decided the composition of the delegation and ensured that it was made up of moderates and realists with whom Israel could do business.

The talks could also switch to a halt if the Arabs demand an end to Jewish settlements as a condition for negotiations.

Mr. Shamir is bound to reject that, even if the Arabs offer in exchange to suspend their economic boycott of Israel and to end the Palestinian uprising in the territories.

Finally, the United States will have to mediate a compromise over the site of the bilateral negotiations that are supposed to begin immediately after the peace conference.

Israel wants them in the Middle East to symbolise its acceptance by Arabs as a legitimate part of the region. Syria, which wants to deny Israel such acceptance until it gives up territory

Final round of tennis championship begins

By Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The third and final round of the Jordan Tennis Championship began Monday at Al Hussein Youth City with 47 players taking part in this decisive round whose winner will be the Jordanian men's singles tennis champion.

In the preliminary matches played Monday Hani Al Ali crushed Yousef Betrawi 6-0, 6-1; Hanna Kawa beat Mohammad Hamed 6-2, 6-2; Nabil Murqus overwhelmed Ayman Khalifeh 6-1, 6-2; Mahmoud Al Disi eliminated Sami Kawa 6-1, 6-2; Asem Al Helou crushed Wael Al Daqqaq 6-0, 6-0; Ziyad Al Madani beat Rami Al Hadid 6-2, 6-3; Iyad Abu Hamda won against Jamil Shamaileh when Shamaileh failed to appear at the tournament; Imad Marqa defeated Khalil Fidde 6-3, 6-4; Khaled Al Naser overwhelmed Shahem Al Wer 6-1, 6-2; Mohammad Ennab eliminated Jarir Tahbouh 6-2, 6-2.

In more competitive matches Ihab Shehadeh beat Kaled Al Husseini 6-3, 4-6, 6-2; Khaled Nafa's won 7-5, 6-4 against Ahmad Al Hadid; and Mohammad Hassounah eliminated Sa'd Al Hijawi, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Fifteen matches will be played Tuesday among which Imad Abu Hamda will play Mohammad Ennab; Laith Al Azzouni will meet Mohammad Hassounah; Marwan Hananah will clash against Asem Al Helou; Iyad Al Jallad will play Iyad Abu Hamda; Samir Al Rifai will face Ihab Shehadeh and Ahmad Maher will play Mohammad Al Disi.

The Jordan Tennis Championship is being held in a three round competition in which points are awarded to the top eight players in each round.

At the end of the second round played in September Hani Al Ali led the overall standings with 500 points followed by Imad Abu Hamda in second place with 300 points and Fares Al Azzouni in third place with 100 points.

Laith Al Azzouni and Samir Rifai are tied in fourth place with 80 points each; Iyad Al Jallad is fifth with 40 points; Ibrahim Al Hadid is sixth with 30 points, followed by Rami Farraj in seventh place with 20 points and Marwan Hananah is eighth with 10 points.

The championship, organised by the Jordan Tennis Federation (JTF), is due to be concluded Saturday.

Cruyff, Beckenbauer enjoy timely victories

LONDON (R) — Old rivals Johan Cruyff and Franz Beckenbauer each enjoyed important league soccer victories in Spain and Germany at the weekend but neither was entirely satisfied.

Barcelona manager Cruyff, Beckenbauer's adversary in the 1974 World Cup final won by West Germany, had least to complain about after his players beat Atletico Madrid 1-0.

That victory, and Real Madrid's 3-0 home win against Logrones, toppled Atletico from the top of the league and lifted champions Barcelona from 13th place to eighth.

"It was an extraordinary display," said Dutchman Cruyff. "After a game like that you can't be negative about anything. I hadn't seen such good soccer for a long time."

Having said that, Cruyff then proceeded to complain about the smaller than usual crowd at the Non Camp.

"I'm delighted with the support of those who were here, the problem is there weren't that many of them," he said.

The turnout of 76,000 may have been small by Barcelona's high standards but it was still the biggest in Europe.

Troubled German giants Bayern Munich, watched by 36,000 fans, ended a string of embarrassing defeats with a 3-0 win over Borussia Moenchengladbach in the Bundesliga Saturday.

While Cruyff was criticising the Barcelona fans for staying away, Beckenbauer was busy preparing his own excuses.

The newly-signed team adviser played down his role in the victory and told reporters in Munich afterwards that he could only spare two days this week to meet the team.

"Later on, fewer days will have to do. I don't have that much time," the former Bayern defender said, adding that he did not feel beating Moenchengladbach meant much.

"I hope it was a new start but I am afraid Moenchengladbach was no yardstick," Beckenbauer said cautiously.

French champions Marseille, the former employers of the German World Cup-winning coach,

had no complaints at the weekend after beating Le Havre 2-0 to go clear at the top.

But title challengers Monaco were plunged to the depths of despair after a goalless home draw with Lens.

Monaco, who started the season in great style with 18 points in 10 games, have picked up only two points from their last five matches in which they have scored just once.

"We should have had the match won in the first 10 minutes," stopper Emmanuel Petit grumbled. "When I saw (midfielder) Youri (Djorkaeff) miss an open goal just before halftime, I knew we couldn't win." The club trails Marseille by two points.

Negative talk was the order of the day in Italy after joint league leaders AC Milan's cautious 1-0 win at Bari.

The total tally of eight goals from nine games was the lowest ever for an 18-team first division programme.

Juventus, missing German right back Stefan Reuter who will be out for at least a month after a cartilage operation, scored a quarter of the goals in beating Cremonese 2-0.

Milan's game prompted the daily gazette Dello Sport to comment that the team, unbeaten so far, had made more back passes to the goalkeeper against Bari than in four seasons under Arrigo Sacchi, the new Italian national coach.

But Milan central defender Alessandro Costacurta was unperturbed: "So, you saw a lot of passes back to the goalkeeper?" he said. "I like winning and to win it's sometimes necessary to pass the ball to the goalkeeper."

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Twins win World Series

MINNEAPOLIS (R) — Gene Larkin's 10th-inning fly ball over a drawn-in outfield scored Dan Gladden to end the tightest seventh game in World Series history as the Minnesota Twins beat the Atlanta Braves 1-0 on Sunday for the championship.

The run climaxed one of the most exciting World Series ever played — one contested between the only two teams in baseball ever to go from last place in the season to first in the next.

But as the clock struck midnight in Atlanta, the cinderella season for the Braves was coming to an end.

After squandering glorious chances in both the eighth and ninth innings, Minnesota finally scored the game's only run in the 10th, set up by Gladden's leadoff, broken-bat bloop into leftcenter that he stretched into a double.

Gladden then went to third on a bunt. After Kirby Puckett and Kent Hrbek were walked intentionally to load the bases, Larkin, a part-time player, pinch-hit a towering fly ball that fell over the pulled in outfielders.

The Twins stormed the field for a mass celebration, accompanied by the thunderous noise generated by an ecstatic Metrodome crowd, which witnessed Minnesota overcome a 3-2 series deficit with two do-or-die home wins.

Twins ace Jack Morris, who also won the opening game, threw 10 complete innings of seven-hit ball for the win and was named Most Valuable Player of

the series.

"The guys kept fighting," Morris said upon receiving the MVP trophy.

Atlanta manager Terry Pendleton capitulated the great series. I lost a tooth and got a five one-run game and somehow we figured out a way to win this one."

Less than half an hour after the victory, Twins players returned to the field and took turns at a microphone thanking the crowd at the stadium where they won all four games to repeat the formula that brought them the 1987 championship over the St. Louis Cardinals.

Their best opportunity came in the eighth when they put runners on second and third with none out.

But every time Morris came up strong and denied the Braves a breakthrough.

"Ten innings on three days rest against a Braves team of that calibre is quite a remarkable effort," said Twins manager Tom Kelly, who considered replacing Morris after nine innings.

In the escape worthy of Houdini.

Lorraine Smith started with a check-swing single to right and Terry Pendleton followed with a rocket to leftcenter.

Smith, who could have scored on the play, hesitated at second and only made it to third base on the double.

Morris got slugger Ron Gant on a trickler to first as the runners held and David Justice was intentionally walked to load the bases for Sid Bream.

Bream, who had left 13 runners stranded on base, left three more and killed the rally by grounding to first baseman Kent Hrbek for a home-to-first double play.

Smith gave way in the eighth inning but Atlanta relievers con-

tinued to keep the Twins attack from scoring.

Minnesota failed to score with the bases loaded and one out in the eighth and came away empty again in the ninth after putting their first two men on.

Atlanta had men in scoring position in four successive innings from the second but failed to capitalise.

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundations

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This evening finds you with an interesting opportunity to put your new plan in operation and to show that your generous qualities have a highly creative aspect to them as well. Keep alert.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Consult with all your partners and allies and get from them a new idea just now you can have a more productive relationship and expand where it means the most.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Think out how and where you can go to get the articles and the appliances that can bring you a new and fresh success at your regular assignments.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) This is your day for social and general prosperity and popularity and one in which you are able to have a ball yourself and please everyone.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Now you have the answers you need of a vocational or a public or career nature that can make your reputation zoom to a higher result.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) So many new interests and personalities are now become a part of your life that not a moment should be lost in getting rid of the unwanted and find in with the desirable.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Show your creditors and debtors that you are the one who does things in a very meticulous and precise fashion and you greatly impress them to your advantage.

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

Players celebrate sensational World Series

MINNEAPOLIS (R) — The Minnesota Twins and Atlanta Braves were the two biggest losers in their respective divisions a year ago but both played like champions in one of the most exciting World Series ever.

"Somebody had to come away a loser, but nobody was a loser in my mind," said Twins ace Jack Morris, "who hurled 10 shutout innings on Sunday night on three days rest to win the seventh-game clincher 1-0."

"It's too bad someone had to lose," said Braves catcher Greg Olson. "If you didn't like baseball before, you've got to like it now."

The seventh game was the tightest decider ever played in a

World Series, fitting for a championship that had three extra-inning games and saw four games end on the last swing of the bat — unprecedented in series history.

Baseball commissioner Fay Vincent praised the Braves in their dressing room after the game.

"Congratulations. You gentlemen are winners also. It's really a shame that someone had to lose," Vincent said.

"This may have been the most competitive series ever and maybe it was the best. All of you in here are wonderful and I salute you."

The lone run of the three-hour 23-minute game came when pinch-hitter Gene Larkin lofted a

fly ball over a drawn-in outfield with the bases loaded and one out in the 10th.

"This was a classic series," Larkin said. "It was nerve-racking to watch from the bench."

Larkin recalled some advice he got from Twins star Kirby Puckett, who was intentionally walked ahead of Larkin.

"Puckett told me, 'lets end it for all of us,'" Larkin said. "And I relaxed and laughed."

The victory gave Minnesota their second title in five years. The Twins beat the St. Louis Cardinals in 1987 the same way they took care of the Braves — by winning all four games in their Metrodome home.

Asked about his nagging back problems, the German replied: "I could have continued to play a couple more hours."

"It feels good to win a tournament, to beat the number seven, three and one in the world in a row," he said, referring to earlier victories over Americans Pete Sampras and Jim Courier.

Becker, still far behind Edberg in the computer rankings, said it was no longer his main goal to be number one.

"It's important to play against the best and to improve my game," he said. "If I'm not number one because I didn't play enough tournaments, that's just too bad."

Graf refused to capitulate and broke back for 4-4, then took the next two games to level the match.

But Braves manager Bobby Cox said: "This was a great ball game and a great series."

"We just didn't get the big hit in this series. We could have broken up several of these games with a big hit, but it didn't happen."

Atlanta's David Justice said: "This hurts an awful lot because we had so many chances. It was a great year for both teams but we were just not effective in getting the hit we needed to break it open."

Garrison won a close opening set of seven breaks and led the second 4-3 after an Epic seventh game which went to 12 deuces and lasted 18 minutes.

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Financial Markets		Jordan Times			
in co-operation with		Cairo Amman Bank			
U.S. Dollar in International Markets					
Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close			
Date: 25/10/1991	Date: 26/10/1991				
Sterling Pound*	1.7150	1.7027			
Deutsche Mark	1.6999	1.7095			
Swiss Franc	1.4875	1.4941			
French Franc	5.8010	5.8290			
Japanese Yen	131.49	132.28			
European Currency Unit	1.2045	1.1985			
USD per STG					
** European Opening @ 6:00 a.m. GMT					
Bourse/Foreign Interest Rates Date: 26/10/1991					
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS		
U.S. Dollar	5.25	5.37	5.37		
Sterling Pound	10.43	10.37	10.25		
Deutsche Mark	9.06	9.25	9.31		
Swiss Franc	8.06	8.25	8.31		
French Franc	8.87	9.06	9.12		
Japanese Yen	6.40	6.18	5.93		
European Currency Unit	9.62	9.81	9.81		
Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.					
Practical Metals Date: 26/10/1991					
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	360.05	6.95	Silver	4.10	.090
* 21 Karat					
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 26/10/1991					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
U.S. Dollar	0.6870	0.6890			
Sterling Pound	1.1705	1.1764			
Deutsche Mark	0.4023	0.4043			
Swiss Franc	0.4601	0.4624			
French Franc	0.1179	0.1185			
Japanese Yen*	0.5193	0.5219			
Dutch Guilder	0.3571	0.3589			
Swedish Krona	0.1105	0.1111			
Italian Lira*	0.0538	0.0547			
Belgian Franc	0.01961	0.01971			
* Per 100					
Other Currencies Date: 26/10/1991					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
Bahraini Dinar	1.7950	1.8070			
Lebanese Lira*	0.0776	0.0780			
Saudi Riyal	0.1829	0.1835			
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-			
Qatari Riyal	0.1864	0.1875			
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2100			
Omanai Riyal	1.7580	1.7670			
UAE Dirham	0.1864	0.1875			
Greek Drachma*	0.3600	0.3700			
Cypriot Pound	1.4500	1.4675			
* Per 100					
CAR Indices for American Financial Markets					
Index	26/10/1991 Close	27/10/1991 Close			
All-Share	125.70	123.49			
Banking Sector	104.43	104.03			
Insurance Sector	125.00	125.16			
Industry Sector	153.07	153.19			
Services Sector	131.82	130.96			
December 31, 1990 = 100					

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.	
One Sterling	1.7030/40
One U.S. dollars	1.1258/63
	1.7080/90
	1.9255/65
	1.4975/82
	35.15/18
	5.8250/8300
	1276/1277
	132.20/30
	6.2210/60
	6.6925/75
	6.6140/90
One ounce of gold	359.40/359.90

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Tel: 675571

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Shows: daily 6:30 p.m.

2. Children play

THE TREASURE AND THE SEA

Shows: daily 10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

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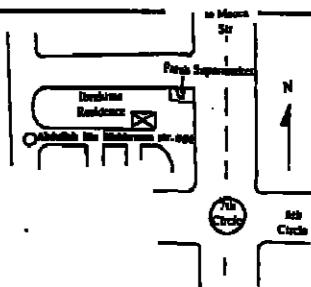
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IMF chief wants Pakistan, India to chop defence spending

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — International Monetary Fund (IMF) head Michel Camdessus Sunday pleaded with arch-rivals India and Pakistan to cut their defence spending to ensure a better life for their people.

He said India was already engaged in "meaningful reductions" in defence expenditure and hoped "Pakistan also will show leadership in this direction."

"What a fine example it will be to the rest of the world if these two great nations can each transfer substantial human and financial resources to activities that will more directly contribute to growth and to the reduction of poverty," he told a seminar in the Punjab provincial capital Lahore.

The IMF chief said political change in the Soviet Union and eastern Europe had reduced East-West tension, creating the prospects of substantial cuts in military spending and "a rechanneling of human and financial resources to better uses."

The IMF managing director, who visited India before coming to Pakistan, later told reporters he knew defence cuts could not be achieved overnight.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence from Britain in 1947 and came close to a fourth last year over a

Muslim uprising in Indian Kashmir.

Mr. Camdessus said he did not know if defence cuts would be a condition for any future IMF loans for Pakistan, but said: "They have to tell us what are their policies."

Pakistan, which spends more than 40 per cent of its budget on defence, has already rejected cuts in armed forces spending, saying the enormous strength of India makes them impossible.

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PLO plans market economy in Palestine

TUNIS (R) — The PLO is drafting plans for a market economy in an embryonic Palestinian state where \$13 billion would be invested in five years, the head of the organisation's economic department said Monday.

Mr. Camdessus, in Pakistan for talks with the government on the economy and IMF funding, said the last tranche of \$140 million of a structural adjustment facility, which would come up for approval in December.

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muslim uprising in Indian Kashmir.

Mr. Abu Ala said the general outline of the economic plan was ready and experts were working on details. He said 67 experts inside the occupied territories and 20 others living outside were preparing to programme and would hand in their reports at the end of next month.

Mr. Abu Ala said the world community "historically responsible for the Palestinians' situation" would be asked to furnish most of the \$13 billion required to finance the plan.

Arab business men outside the territories would also be invited to invest in the planned economy.

PLO sources said wealthy Palestinians living in the United States, Latin America, Europe and the Gulf states approved the creation of a Palestinian development bank when they met in Tunis last year.

Nobel prizes reach record

\$1m mark each

OSLO, Norway (AP) — It took 90 years, and lucky breaks in the real estate market, for the Nobel Foundation to finally match the cash awards it gave with the first Nobel prizes in 1901.

Each of the six 1991 prizes was worth 6 million Swedish kronor, about \$1

Yugoslav army warns of more damage to historic Dubrovnik

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav army has issued a stern warning to Croatian militias entrenched in Dubrovnik to surrender or expect more damage to their historic city and its renaissance treasures.

"Paramilitary forces have to surrender and give up their arms," Vice Admiral Miodrag Jokic, in charge of the district around Dubrovnik, said in an interview Monday.

"We're not going to leave our positions until that's done," he told *Borba* newspaper. The army has clamped a tight siege on Dubrovnik and is dug in two kilometres from the city gates.

It began the siege of the popular tourist port on Oct. 1 in a campaign to prise out militia fighters supporting the Republic of Croatia, which declared its independence on June 25.

A tight army and navy blockade now rings the Adriatic port, controlling all access and overseeing any evacuations. Despite some shooting incidents, an uneasy truce around Dubrovnik agreed last Friday was still holding Monday.

Fighting over the weekend in northeastern Croatia subsided Monday but there were reports of renewed battles with infantry, artillery and army planes around Pakrac.

Two Serbian civilians were killed and one wounded by snipers in the area, *Tanjug* News Agency said.

Croatian radio said army artillery barrages were pounding the town of Vukovar on the Danube River. Vukovar, with 15,000 people holding out, has been under army siege for two months.

In Sinj in the Kroatia area a Croatian National Guardsman was killed and three others wounded in fighting Monday.

Refugees fleeing Dubrovnik told tales of fear and privation for some 50,000 men, women and children trapped inside.

"It is horrible," said a refugee named Ela, 27, who landed on the island of Korcula aboard a ferry packed with some 1,200 Dubrovnik refugees during the night.

"There is no fruit, no milk, not even for pregnant women and babies, no medicine, and the

worst thing is there is no water, everyone is thirsty and everyone smells bad," she said.

But the army held out little hope for an early return to normal life in Dubrovnik, and reacted angrily when a deadline for its surrender demands expired Sunday without acceptance.

The authorities in Dubrovnik do not care about preserving the historic old town and its treasures," it said Sunday.

It was an implicit threat that fighting which devastated much of the Dubrovnik area last week, including some damage to the city's historic old town, could be repeated.

Suleiman Ugjicanin, a local Muslim leader in the Sanjak centre of Novi Pazar, told reporters, that some activists of the Muslim Party of Democratic Action sponsoring the vote were arrested in the Montenegro town of Bijelo Polje.

The overall turnout was more than 90 per cent, even before the voting was over," said Rasin Ljubic, the chairman of the party here.

"The result will show to both Serbians and Montenegrin parliaments that the Muslims do not want to be ruled by them any more," Mr. Ugjicanin said.

foreign ministers will discuss the Yugoslav crisis in Brussels again Monday.

Meanwhile, more than 90 per cent of the Muslims in the southern Yugoslav Sapuk region voted in an illegal three-day referendum on political autonomy, organisers claimed Sunday.

Defying a ban, Muslims in southern Serbia and in the neighbouring Republic of Montenegro continued voting in secrecy Sunday after police closed down several polling stations.

Suleiman Ugjicanin, a local Muslim leader in the Sanjak centre of Novi Pazar, told reporters, that some activists of the Muslim Party of Democratic Action sponsoring the vote were arrested in the Montenegro town of Bijelo Polje.

"The result will not be able to make it on its own. Maybe in a few years... but today such isolationistic plans are dangerous," he said.

"For other republics, including Ukraine, isolationism is a disaster."

Excerpts of the interview were published Monday in the French daily *Le Figaro*.

Mr. Gorbachev said the Soviet Union's future lay in a new form of state which would mix elements of a federation, confederation and association.

"Since it must not be a unitarian state, there can be no question of a unitarian way of joining the community," he said. What would keep the new entity together would be a common history and destiny and the strength of joint decisions.

"We inherited an incredibly dense relationship and we must stick together, keep marching forward in close formation."

Mr. Gorbachev said the Soviet Union could not survive with its current war machine encompassing between one-third and one-half of Soviet society and using up its most qualified scientists.

"Military reform is inevitable: We cannot survive with an over-militarised economy," he said.

Meanwhile, the leader of an opposition movement challenging Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki and the centre Citizens Alliance, had 7.14 and 8.48 per cent of the vote, respectively.

The results, announced at 1.15 p.m. (1215 GMT), were based on tallies from 64 per cent of Sunday's vote.

Votes were widely dispersed among the dozens of parties fielding candidates, according to unofficial exit polls. That outcome could lead to continued infighting in parliament, which has hobbled efforts to deal with Poland's economic woes.

Election projections predicted that as many as 19 parties would win seats in the new Sejm, or lower chamber.

Nonetheless, President Lech Walesa and other leaders hoped

Democratic Union leading in 1st Polish elections

WARSAW (AP) — A centrist faction of the splintered Solidarity union took an early lead Monday in Poland's first completely free parliamentary election in five decades. The former Communists showed unexpected strength, running a close second.

The Democratic Union, led by former Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, garnered 12.14 per cent, according to preliminary results released by the State Electoral Committee. They were followed closely by the former Communists renamed the Alliance of the Democratic Left, with 11.64 per cent, the committee said.

The results, announced at 1.15 p.m. (1215 GMT), were based on tallies from 64 per cent of Sunday's vote.

Though it led the Soviet Bloc's revolt against communism, Poland was the last country in the region to hold completely free parliamentary elections. In a 1989 election, two-thirds of the lower house's seats were reserved for Communists under the agreement that led to the end of Communist rule.

Election projections predicted that as many as 19 parties would win seats in the new Sejm, or lower chamber.

Nonetheless, President Lech Walesa and other leaders hoped

Burma gives U.N. investigator access to prison

BANGKOK (R) — Burma's military junta refused to let a U.N. human rights investigator visit detained Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, but let him go to a prison where many of her supporters are held, diplomats said Monday.

Japanese University Professor Yozo Yokota went to Burma last week to check on persistent reports of torture and other human rights abuses.

He was allowed to visit Insein Jail on the outskirts of Rangoon, where many political prisoners are held. U.N. investigator Sadao Ogata, on a similar mission last year, had her request to see the jail turned down.

But Yokota was prevented from seeing Aung San Suu Kyi, the country's leading dissident who has been under house arrest since July 1989, the diplomats said.

Aung San Suu Kyi won this year's Nobel Peace Prize for standing up to what the Norwegian Nobel Committee called "a regime characterised by brutality."

Many of the prisoners at Insein are members of Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD), which won the May, 1990 general election by a landslide but has been barred from office by the junta.

Diplomats in Rangoon and Bangkok said it was not clear how much of Insein Jail Prof. Yokota was able to see, or if he was able to speak to political prisoners.

"But the fact he was allowed to visit at all shows a slightly more forthcoming attitude than last year," said one diplomat in Bangkok.

It showed the junta was worried about the possibility of a public investigation into its human rights record by the commission, the diplomat said.

Prof. Yokota's report remains confidential after he presents it to the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

The FBI statistics are compiled from crimes reported to the police around the country.

Violent crimes keep rising in the U.S., FBI reports

WASHINGTON (R) — Violent crimes in the United States went up by five per cent in the first six months of the year, the FBI said Sunday.

Of the property crimes, burglaries, thefts and motor vehicle thefts all edged up by one per cent while the number of arsons showed no change.

Regionally, the crime rate went up four per cent in the midwest, three per cent in the south and two per cent in the west. Only the northeastern states had a three per cent drop.

The crime rate in the nation's biggest cities, which have been hit hardest by drugs and violence, actually edged slightly lower from January through June, the FBI said.

But the decline was more than offset by higher crime rates in small towns, suburbs and rural areas across the nation.

The FBI statistics are compiled from crimes reported to the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

The elections were held under heavy guard, with 80,000 soldiers and police posted around the country after a spate of guerrilla attacks.

The leftist guerrillas caused some disruption to the elections, killing two policemen and a civilian in an ambush on a patrol carrying election results, setting up road blocks and stealing ballot boxes in one village.

The Liberals held an absolute majority in both houses of the old Congress, dissolved 2½ years earlier after a constitutional assembly decreed sweeping reforms to the legislature, often accused of corruption.

But the election result renewed the Liberals' faith in themselves after their vote dropped sharply in elections to the Constitutional Assembly last December.

Although M-19 won Senate seats for the first time, its vote dropped from the 27 per cent it won in December.

With the election outcome, Mr. Gaviria has succeeded in opening the political system to new forces. Mr. Gaviria promoted a constitutional reform this year aimed at broadening democracy.

The white paper said North Korea was expected to complete its third nuclear reactor in 1992 in Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang. Its first reactor was set up in 1963

using Soviet technology and equipment.

"The North is also building a recycling plant in the same complex which will be able to extract plutonium on a mass scale," the document said. Plutonium is used in making nuclear weapons.

"The plant is expected to go into full operation from 1993, enabling the North to possess nuclear weapons in the middle of the 1990s," it said.

President George Bush announced last month that the United States was scrapping all land-based battlefield nuclear weapons in Europe and Asia, the type believed to be stationed in South Korea.

U.S. newspapers said later that Washington had decided to withdraw all its nuclear weapons from South Korea, including those dropped by air.

"North Korea's development of nuclear weapons is sure to break the mechanism of nuclear non-proliferation in the world," the white paper said.

"Furthermore, the North has deployed an advanced type of Scud missiles ranging 500

kilometres within 50 kilometres north of the border (between North and South)," it said.

"This poses a big security threat to the South, and the North is now developing missiles with longer ranges," it said.

The South Korean capital Seoul is only 40 kilometres from the demilitarised zone that has separated the two Koreas since their 1950-53 war. Pusan, the South's major port, is less than 350 kilometres from the zone.

The paper said the North has been producing chemical, biological and radiological weapons since the early 1960s.

"It has so far produced and stockpiled in large quantities such poison gas agents as blister, nerve, suffocation, blood agent and tear gases," it said.

"It also has finished a series of five experiments with cultured bacteria... in an attempt to produce germ weapons."

North Korea's armed forces numbered 995,000 and it had 850 fighter planes, 3,600 tanks and 24

submarines, the document said.

It said the South had 655,000 men under arms, 520 fighters, 1,550 tanks and no submarines.

Gorbachev warns republics against secession

13 more killed in South African factional fighting

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — At least 13 people were killed in political violence, including six people who died when a grenade exploded in a crowded wedding reception, police said Monday.

Police reports said most of the weekend violence was in the eastern province of Natal, where 11 people were killed. The dead included a police officer stabbed to death near Durban.

Six people were killed and at least 10 injured when a man buried a grenade at the wedding reception late Saturday in a house at Umzimkulu near Durban.

The Zulu dominated Inkatha Freedom Party said Monday the house belonged to one of its leading supporters in the area. The man was not hurt in the attack.

Black factional violence that has claimed some 5,000 lives in the past two years mostly pits Inkatha against the rival African National Congress. The two groups oppose apartheid, but are divided by ideological and tribal differences.

Guy Coene announced.

In an interview on Belgian radio, Mr. Coene said the troops left during the night and were headed for a central African nation "that is not Zaire."

He would not say where the troops were going, but added they would not enter Zaire, where Belgium still has some 800 troops.

Mr. Coene said the troops would set up a support base to facilitate a rapid evacuation of the 2,000 to 4,000 Belgians still in Zaire.

Flights were being arranged Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Those wishing to leave should assemble with one piece of luggage, food for 48 hours and any essential medicines. Pets would have to be left behind.

On Friday, Britain advised all its remaining citizens in Kinshasa to go immediately to safe houses. There were about 160 Britons still in the country awaiting evacuation.

Several hundred Britons have left Zaire since riots flared a month ago.

Some 100 Belgian paratroopers were flying to Africa Monday to help evacuate all Belgian nationals from Zaire, Defence Minister reported Monday.

General Dzakhar Dudayev, who has led a rebellion against the local Russian-backed government in the Autonomous Republic of Chechen-Ingushetia, defeated two other candidates.

Speaking at a news conference in the capital Grozny Sunday, Gen. Dudayev said his election was "a qualitative new step in the lives of the Chechen people, and a logical end to the very difficult historical path to independence."

Radio Russia reported that more than 80 per cent of the region's 1.3 million people voted in Sunday's poll. The region is in southern Russia, close to its border with Georgia.

The comments by Chech Sim signalled that it may be difficult to implement the accord, intended to end nearly 13 years of war between his government and a guerrilla coalition dominated by the Kluher Rouge.

The treaty provides for each of the four factions in the conflict to reduce its army by 70 per cent before United Nations-organised elections. The rest of the troops are to stay in U.N.-supervised areas.

Mr. Chech Sim's recent interview with foreign journalists in Phnom Penh was carried by Cambodian state radio Sunday. A transcript was seen in Bangkok.

The Kluher Rouge killed hundreds of thousands of people in radical social experiments in 1975-78, before Vietnam invaded, and installed the current government in Phnom Penh.

Chech Sim said the Kluher Rouge already has shown its intentions by trying to move refugees from Thai camps into guerrilla-held areas of Cambodia, violating the repatriation plan of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

"It is difficult to trust this group, which has violated the UNHCR plan," he said. "We are not talking about reducing 70 per cent of the U.N. to control," Mr. Chech Sim said.

Meanwhile, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said Monday that a U.N. peacekeeping force will not be in danger from thousands of land mines left over from 20 years of war in his country.

Mr. Hun Sen said that while his forces suffered 2,500 to 3,000 casualties in the past year—most due to mines—the U.N. troops would be much safer because they would be avoiding the jungle areas of conflict.

"If our forces were hit by land mines, it was because our forces had to go into the jungles to fight a war there," he said.

The Berlin-born Miss Dietrich said her relatives were in New York as usual; and she was seeing friends and acquaintances at her Paris apartment, Spiegel reported.

Rogers, Astaire did not always dance in step

BOSTON (AP) — Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire may have glided across the silver screen, but she says the two didn't always dance in step. Rogers, 80, recalled learning in the 1930s that Astaire had agreed to let one of the couple's dance routines be used in another film. Rogers asked him why she wasn't consulted. "I said to Astaire, 'Did you give permission?' he said, 'Yes.' I said, 'You did this without talking to me.' he said, 'Yes.' I said, 'What